

Message

From: ECOS [ecos@ecos.org]
Sent: 4/26/2019 3:01:06 PM
To: Beck, Nancy [Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]
Subject: ECOS Looks into the Crystal Ball on Environmental Protection, Names New Committee Chair, & More

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ECOSWIRE | Vol. 21 No. 16

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ECOSWIRE

Friday, April 26, 2019

Vol. 21 No. 16

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ECOS Featured at Conference on Future of Environmental Protection



Don Welsh, Ben Grumbles, and Martha Rudolph.

On April 23, ECOS Executive Director Don Welsh joined ECOS member Ben Grumbles of Maryland and former President Martha Rudolph of Colorado on a panel at American University's "EPA and the Future of Environmental Protection" [symposium](#). Organized by American University, the U.S. EPA Alumni Association, and the Environmental Law Institute, the symposium provided a forum to consider the future of EPA's role in meeting environmental challenges.

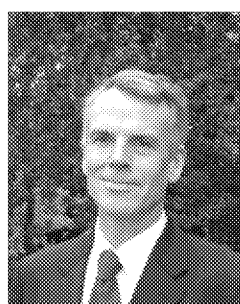
Welsh, Grumbles, and Rudolph highlighted the importance of state-EPA partnerships in promoting environmental protection, highlighting efforts such as Cooperative Federalism 2.0 and E-Enterprise for the Environment.

Other sessions showcased the perspectives of former EPA Administrators William Reilly, Carol Browner, and Gina McCarthy; identified opportunities for technology to facilitate

environmental protection; described collaborative state-federal efforts in the Chesapeake Bay; explored White House and international perspectives in environmental policy; and brainstormed ways to encourage national dialogue on future directions for EPA and environmental protection. [Klasen]

Whitman of Oregon Named Cross-Media Committee Chair

ECOS Seeks Nominations by May 10 for Cross-Media and Planning Vice Chairs



Richard Whitman and Myra Reece.

ECOS is pleased to announce that President Becky Keogh of Arkansas has appointed Richard Whitman of Oregon to chair the Cross-Media Committee. He succeeds Maia Bellon of Washington, whose term expired. Whitman has served since 2017 as Director of Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality and as Acting Director since 2016, having previously worked in the Governor's Natural Resources Office as Policy Director.

The Cross-Media Committee seeks nominations for a Vice Chair to serve alongside Whitman and succeed Heidi Grether, who left the helm of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Per the ECOS bylaws, the committees elect Vice Chairs. The committee deals with implementation of the new federal toxics law, chemicals of emerging concern like PFAS, and a range of other policy matters. Please send expressions of interest by **May 10** to [Sarah Grace Longworth](#).

The ECOS Planning Committee also seeks nominations for a Vice Chair to serve alongside newly appointed Chair Myra Reece of South Carolina. The committee supports discussions with U.S. EPA on funding priorities, strategic planning including EPA's National Program Guidances, and state grants administration, and provides leadership on

ECOS Results and other projects. Please send expressions of interest by **May 10** to [Beth Graves](#). [Parisien/Graves]

U.S. EPA Releases Draft Interim Guidance for PFAS in Groundwater

U.S. EPA yesterday released for public comment its draft interim guidance on addressing groundwater contaminated with PFOA and/or PFOS. The guidance outlines preliminary remediation goals as well as recommended screening levels of 70 parts per trillion.

These recommendations, which mark a significant step in the agency's [PFAS Action Plan](#), are available until **June 10** for public comment. To view the guidance and submit comments, see [here](#). [Longworth]



State News You Can Use

States Mark Earth Day in a Variety of Ways

From coast to coast, state environmental agencies marked Earth Day on April 22 with a variety of programs, publications, and observances. Read on for a small sampling:

DC 'Bee the Change'

Wyoming State of the Environment Report

Ohio School Recognition Program

Florida Recycling Recognition Award

Need-to-Know News in Water, Land and Waste, & Shale Gas Caucus

ECOS Drinking Water Financing Webinar Recording Now Available

Area of Focus: Water

Last week, ECOS held a webinar to highlight three states' initiatives to help small water systems finance drinking water projects. The webinar recording is available on the [ECOS website](#). Presentations covered Alaska's Micro Loan Program, Connecticut's Emergency Power Generator and Small Loan Programs, and Oregon's Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Projects Program.

The webinar is the product of a research project to document state innovations in drinking water infrastructure financing. ECOS is working under a cooperative agreement with U.S.

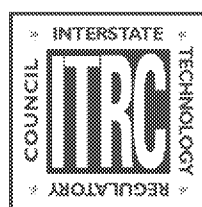
Citing State Adequacy, U.S. EPA Declines to Revise O&G Solid Waste Rules

Area of Focus: Land and Waste, Shale Gas Caucus

On April 23, U.S. EPA finalized a determination that based on its review, it is not necessary to revise the existing federal solid waste regulations for the management of wastes associated with the exploration, development, and production of crude oil, natural gas, and geothermal energy. The determination fulfills EPA's obligation under a consent decree issued by a federal court in a case brought by environmentalists in December 2016, under which EPA was required to conduct a review and determine whether revisions to the regulations under RCRA Subtitle D were necessary.

According to EPA, the review showed that states are actively engaged in addressing the challenges posed by increased oil and gas operations and have been responding by updating their waste management programs. A key finding in the review was that state programs have the regulatory elements that are important components of waste management programs.

Additional information comprising EPA's review and decision is contained in the document Management of Oil and Gas Exploration, Development and Production Wastes: Factors Informing a Decision on the Need for Regulatory Action. [Parisien]



ITRC

Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council

ITRC to Launch Two New Teams in June

In June, the Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) will begin two new teams:

- Vapor Intrusion Mitigation Training
- Green and Sustainable Remediation with Resiliency to Extreme Weather Events and Wildfires

Membership will open in mid-May, and all state employees are encouraged to join. Visit the [ITRC website](#) to learn more. [Olonoff]

ITRC Seeks Proposals for New Teams

The Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) is accepting team proposals that address urgent environmental issues and advance innovative technologies and processes. The proposals selected by the ITRC Board of Advisors will begin in January 2020.

All applicable environmental topics will be considered, but evaluation criteria will give greater weight to proposals that address the needs listed in the 2020 ITRC priorities list, or proposals that update ITRC documents that are outdated. Existing ITRC documents can be found [here](#).

Proposals are due electronically to ITRC Director [Patty Reyes](#) by **May 10**. Learn more [here](#). [Olonoff]

Career Opportunities

Delaware Seeks Chief of Administration for Environmental Finance

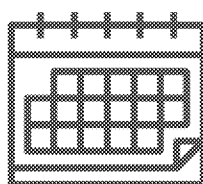
The Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control (DNREC) seeks a Chief of Administration for Environmental Finance. The incumbent will review and

evaluate existing offerings and guide the development of a comprehensive portfolio of DNREC's Environmental and Public Health Infrastructure Financing Programs across all divisions to help ensure standardization on program process, procedures, accounting, reporting, and public access/use.

The vacancy closes on **May 14**. For details, please click [here](#) and see Recruitment #041719-MABZ32-400100. [Parisien]

ACWA Seeks Environmental Program Manager

The Association of Clean Water Administrators has a current opening for an Environmental Program Manager. Applications are due by **April 29**. For more information, please see the [position announcement](#). [Lopez-Santos]



Upcoming Events

ECOS on PFAS

ECOS will host or jointly host two upcoming calls on various technical and regulatory PFAS-related issues:

- **April 29 at 4-5 p.m. Eastern:** The ECOS-EPA bimonthly technical PFAS call will highlight recent PFAS efforts in Massachusetts, as well as updates on U.S. EPA's PFAS method development and IRIS PFAS assessments. Access the webinar [here](#).

- **May 7 at 2-3 p.m. Eastern:** The ECOS PFAS Caucus will hold its bimonthly call to continue its discussion of state standards and other efforts. Email [Sarah Grace Longsworth](#) of ECOS for more details. [Longsworth]

E-Enterprise on NPDES Electronic Permitting and Reporting

On **May 2 at 1-3 p.m. Eastern**, E-Enterprise for the Environment will host a webinar to spotlight work by states and U.S. EPA related to development and deployment of various National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting applications and workflows. The webinar will include information from:

- **Nevada:** An overview of Nevada's Division of Environmental Protection (DEP) state-developed E-Permitting system and NetDMR system. The NetDMR system builds on initial work from Texas using Exchange Network funding. The system gathers state and federal NPDES permit information and can flow federal NPDES permit information to EPA, and regulated entities may use NetDMR to report DMRs. The code is available to other states.
- **U.S. EPA Office of Water:** An overview of the revised EPA OW NPDES Individual Permit Application forms stemming from the February NPDES Updates Rule.
- **Rhode Island and U.S. EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance:** A review of EPA OECA's NeT reporting tool for NPDES general permits and program reports such as the Construction General Permit and Multi-Sector General Permit. Rhode Island staff will discuss their efforts working with EPA to develop the first state-specific general permit application in NeT. OECA will discuss additional plans to build other IT applications in NeT and to expose tools through the [E-Enterprise portal](#).

To register for the webinar, click [here](#). It will be recorded for future viewing. For more information, please contact [Beth Graves](#) of ECOS and [Sarah Abramowitz](#) of Ross Strategic. [Graves]

U.S. EPA on Environmental Justice

U.S. EPA will host the second webinar in its State Environmental Justice Training Webinar series on **May 15 at 2-3:30 pm**. The series is designed to build long-term capacity for

practitioners working to advance environmental justice at the state level.

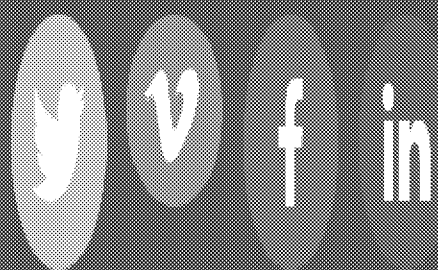
This webinar, *Enhancing Community Involvement in the Regulatory Process*, will focus on planning and supporting effective community involvement processes, an advocate's perspective on actions the state agency can take to ensure meaningful community involvement in the regulatory process, and how to effectively integrate community involvement into the state agency culture and decision-making. Participants will hear from Lawra Boyce of the South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control, Kelly Haragan of the University of Texas School of Law, and Laura Mckelvey of U.S. EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.

Please register in order to confirm your participation. The first webinar in this series filled to capacity. For more information, visit EPA's website. For questions about the series, please contact Charles Lee of EPA. [Poole]

U.S. EPA on Coastal Nutrient Management

U.S. EPA's Office of Research and Development will host its next monthly Tools and Resources Webinar on **May 22 at 3-4 p.m. Eastern**. The webinar will focus on nutrient management in coastal communities and highlight a project on which EPA partnered in Cape Cod to launch an Advanced Septic Systems Nitrogen Sensor Challenge, Social-Ecological Systems Research, and the Nutrients Translational Science Pilot. EPA's Tim Gleason will present on the results of the challenge and broader nutrients research efforts that can be applied to other communities with similar challenges.

To register, see here. [Longsworth]



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